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ENTERTAINMENT LAW

SUSAN ABRAMOVITCH

Winter 2007

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ENTERTAINMENT LAW

University of Toronto
Winter 2007

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: Susan Abramovitch
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Coursebook Coordinator: Davin Lengyel
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Office Hours: times available by appointment only (please contact my assistant)

CLASS MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION:

Thursdays: 4:10pm - 6.00pm in FLA (78 Queens Park)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a specialized contract law course that will cover the contractual issues that are essential to the film, television, music and digital media industries. Having said that, we will emphasize the practical over the theoretical. A central objective is to provide students with an understanding of the music, film, television and videogaming businesses. Just as important, you will meet several entertainment lawyers, each of whom has his or her own distinctive style of practising entertainment law. You will examine and discuss actual agreements with the lawyers who negotiated them. Your course of study will cover the practical and legal aspects involved in the acquisition and exploitation of various rights. For example: domestic and international distribution, licensing, publishing and production agreements. It is intended that you will come away from the course with an appreciation not just for the legal issues that underlie the various agreements, but also the drafting and negotiation of those agreements.

EVALUATION:

- 100% final examination, open book
- Date of final examination: **Thursday, April 19th, 2007**

COURSE MATERIALS:

- Required Text: *Entertainment Law Casebook*, Winter 2007 ed., Susan Abramovitch
- Legislation: *Copyright Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c.-42.
 - Available online: <http://www.canlii.org/ca/sta/c-42/>*Draft Bill C-60*
 - Available online: http://www.parl.gc.ca/38/1/parlbus/chambus/house/bills/government/C-60/C-60_1/C-60-3E.html

Date	Subject Matter	Instructor(s)
11-Jan-07	Introduction • <i>Behind the scenes</i> – the entertainment law industry • <i>So you want my job?</i> - a day in the life of an entertainment lawyer	Susan Abramovitch
18-Jan-07	Music (1) • Recording Agreements	Susan Abramovitch
25-Jan-07	Copyright Reform • The WIPO Treaties and priority issues • How will copyright reform affect entertainment law?	Richard Pfohl
1-Feb-07	Negotiation Strategy • The Art of the Deal	Graham Henderson
08-Feb-07	Music (2) • Music Publishing Agreements	Susan Abramovitch
15-Feb-07	Personality Issues • Misappropriation of Personality	Susan Abramovitch
22-Feb-07	***** READING WEEK *****	
01-Mar-07	Film and Television (1) - Development • acquiring underlying rights • original productions and formats • hiring writers • securing development financing	David Zitzerman and Michael Levine
08-Mar-07	Film and Television (2) - Production • engaging cast and crew • locations • banking insurance and completion guarantees • production financing	David Zitzerman and Michael Levine
15-Mar-07	Entertainment • Cross-over Rights Issues • Contracting for Real and Virtual Worlds • Advergaming	Eric Gross
22-Mar-07	New Media (1)	Stephen Stohn and Graham Henderson
29-Mar-07	New Media (2)	Stephen Stohn and Graham Henderson
05-Apr-07	Exam Review Class	Susan Abramovitch